REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

1.   (original) A system for processing electronic documents, comprising:

-        input means for inputting at least an input document (D1) and reference data (D2),

-        analysis means (16) for analyzing the content of the input document (D1) as regards a content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

-        selection means for selecting a type of linkage from a number of predefined types of linkages, a type of linkage being selected that corresponds to the type of content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

-        and output means for outputting a linkage (L) of the selected type.

2. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which the linkage (L) comprises a linkage direction.

3. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which the reference data are a second document (D2).

4. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which the reference data are a representation for a group of content-related documents.

5. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which:

-        during the selection of the type of linkage keywords are searched for which denote the type of linkage between the content of the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

-        and a type of linkage is selected corresponding to the keywords found.

6. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which:

- when the type of linkage is selected, the document (D) is assigned to one from a plurality of predefined types of documents,

- and a type of linkage is selected in accordance with the type of document.

7. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which:

- the input document (D1) comprises at least a text portion and a data portion,

- the data portion containing information about the type and/or origin of the document.

8. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 6 7, in which the data portion of the input document (D1) is used to select the type of document.

9. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which the analysis means access a database in which terms are assigned to generic terms.

10. (currently amended) A The system as claimed in claim 1, in which:

- the input document (D1) and the established linkage (L) are stored in a memory system (12),

- the memory system (12) being organized so that for documents stored therein there are linkages to other documents.

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

11. (currently amended) A method for processing documents ~~in which~~ comprising executing operations in a data processing device, the operations comprising:~~:~~

- processing at least one input document (D1) and reference data (D2)~~ are processed~~,

- analyzing the input document (D1) ~~being analyzed~~ with respect to its content

making ~~and~~ a decision ~~being made~~ whether there is a content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

- for the case of a content-based relation, assigning a type of linkage ~~being selected~~ from a number of types of linkages in accordance with the type of content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2), and

- ~~and~~establishing a linkage of the selected type ~~is established~~.

12. (currently amended) A medium readable by at least one data processing device and embodying program code for ~~implementing a method as claimed in claim 11~~ causing the device to perform operations, the operations comprising:

processing at least one input document (D1) and reference data (D2),

- analyzing the input document (D1) with respect to its content,

making a decision whether there is a content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

- for the case of a content-based relation, assigning a type of linkage from a number of types of linkages in accordance with the type of content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2), and

- establishing a linkage of the selected type.

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

13. (new) A system for processing electronic documents, comprising:

-   input means for inputting at least an input document (D1) and reference data (D2),

-   analysis means (16) for analyzing the content of the input document (D1) as regards a content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

-   selection means for assigning a type of linkage from a number of predefined types of linkages, a type of linkage being assigned that corresponds to the type of content-based relation between the input document (D1) and the reference data (D2),

-   and output means for outputting a linkage (L) of the selected type.